



Oregon Center for  
**N U R S I N G**

## Testimony to House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare

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### Testimony on HB-2926

HB-2926 (Nelson, Goodwin) directs the Oregon Health Authority establish a program to provide financial incentives to hospitals for offering clinical training opportunities for nursing students.

The Future of Oregon's Nursing Workforce: Analysis and Recommendation report conducted by the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) and the Oregon Center for Nursing (OCN) described how the lack of clinical placements for nursing students to be one of the biggest challenges in Oregon's inability to expand the capacity of its nursing education programs.

A report released by OCN in 2019, recommended building partnerships between clinical facilities and nursing education to pursue innovative models for nursing student clinical experiences to help increase the number of students nursing programs could accept

Due to the pandemic, and the increased workload a student's presence can add to already overworked healthcare workers, clinical placements have been more limited over the past three years. This puts new graduates into the workforce with little hands-on experience working with patients. To adapt to this shift in nurse preparedness, employers are recalibrating their transition-to-practice, such as internships, fellowships and nurse residencies.

The Future of Oregon's Nursing Workforce report recommended Oregon government agencies and employers to explore strategies to fund apprenticeships, internships, and/or residencies to expand nursing workforce in both general nursing and specialized clinical fields.

HB-2926 would incentivize hospitals to pursue additional models of clinical placement for nursing students.